ORGANIZATION OF NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATABASES

By Lou Knecht, Bibliographic Services Division (reprinted from NLM Technical Bulletin 2000, May-June; (314):e1)

As part of the National Library of Medicine's (NLM) project to modernize its computer systems, the Library has been reorganizing its bibliographic data into three groups:

1. Citations to journal and journal-like (e.g., newsletter) articles published from 1966 forward,
2. Citations to monographs (including book chapters) and to whole serials, and
3. Meeting abstracts, and journal article citations that predate 1966 as a year of publication.

Journal Citations

Journal and journal-like citations from 1966 forward will reside in PubMed, the NLM's Web-based retrieval system. PubMed contains:

1. MEDLINE,
2. MEDLINE in-process citations, and
3. Publisher-supplied citations.

MEDLINE citations, the bulk of PubMed at about 11 million citations, are enhanced with MeSH indexing and other value-added data such as publication types; grant numbers; comments, errata, and retractions; and related-accession numbers to genetic databanks. MEDLINE in-process citations (also known as PREMEDLINE) are preliminary (not yet quality controlled) citations, most of which will become indexed MEDLINE citations. Publisher-supplied citations are sent to NLM electronically directly by a publisher. While these citations often contain abstracts,

they are not indexed with MeSH and the other value-added data entered, nor do they undergo the strict quality control procedures used by NLM for MEDLINE data. Also, the scope of both MEDLINE and PubMed is expanding to include more life sciences after concentrating in the past on biomedical topics.

Monographs

Citations to monographs and whole serials will reside in LOCATOR*plus*, the NLM's Web-based online public access catalog. The contents are largely NLM's own physical collection which also includes audiovisuals and historical materials, but some materials cited in LOCATOR*plus* are owned by other institutions, not by NLM. These other institutions are either regional libraries that are part of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, or are organizations that have cooperative agreements with NLM to create records in certain subject areas such as health services research, space life sciences, bioethics, or family planning/population research.

Meeting Abstracts

Meeting abstracts as well as the journal citations older than 1966 (also knows as OLDMEDLINE) will reside in another Web-based collection that is currently under development. NLM is segregating meeting abstracts to speed up their availability. NLM hopes users will also recognize that there are no full-text articles associated with these abstracts. OLDMEDLINE data differ significantly in structure from more modern MEDLINE data; while the citations contain controlled subject vocabulary terms, those terms have not been validated against the current MeSH vocabulary. This condition would affect retrieval integrity if the OLDMEDLINE data were part of PubMed.

NLM Gateway

This new organization groups data similar in structure or function which has the benefit of optimizing retrieval techniques, as well as streamlining data creation and maintenance behind the scenes. Users who want to concentrate on a particular data publication type can go directly to the appropriate

retrieval system, e.g., those who know they want only recent journal literature references will go directly to PubMed. Users who want to search for all bibliographic information on a particular subject may try the NLM Gateway, a new Web-based system expected in Spring/Summer 2000.

The NLM Gateway will be an intelligent search tool that will automatically search multiple systems at the National Library of Medicine and present the results. It will interface initially with PubMed, LOCATOR-*plus*, meeting abstracts, OLDMEDLINE, and MEDLINE*plus* (NLM's Web-based consumer health information service). Future development of the Gateway will provide access to other information systems at NLM such as TOXNET and *ClinicalTrials.gov,* while improving the functionality of the evolving Gateway.

Conversion Road Map

For those loyal users of NLM from our mainframe-based days who were used to searching several subject-oriented ELHILL databases, NLM is converting the unique data from those databases into the appropriate group in the new organization. Unique journal citations from HealthSTAR are already in PubMed's MEDLINE and those from AIDSLINE, HISTLINE, SPACELINE, BIOETHICSLINE, and POPLINE will follow. These unique journal citations are becoming part of the enhanced MEDLINE in PubMed. Existing citations will retain their MeSH headings and new citations will continue to be indexed with MeSH. PubMed subject search filters or hedges are expected for most of these topics. Health Services Research will probably develop multiple filters because of the nature of its scope.

Unique monographic citations from HealthSTAR, HISTLINE, SPACELINE, and BIOETHICS are already in LOCATOR*plus* with POPLINE to follow. These citations are tagged in LOCATOR*plus* as contributed by the specific data producer. About 22,000 monographic chapter citations dating from 1976-81 will also be moved from MEDLINE to LOCATOR*plus.*

Meeting abstracts from AIDSLINE as well as the OLDMEDLINE data will be available in the first phase of the NLM Gateway while meeting abstracts from HealthSTAR are expected in a subsequent version of the Gateway.

In the future, citations in both PubMed and LOCATOR*plus* will be shared among NLM and cooperating producers. Rather than having multiple copies of a citation that are each enhanced in different ways by different producers, now there will be only one copy of a citation which may be enhanced in certain ways by these cooperating producers. One enhancement example is the addition of Space Flight/Mission Numbers to citations reporting research conducted in space. Only a small number of unique, non-*Index Medicus* citations are affected by this shared work flow, yet everyone benefits by not repeating MEDLINE-derived and LOCATOR*plus*-derived citations in multiple places. NLM currently has agreements with the following outside collaborators: the Kennedy Institute of Ethics, the Population Information Program, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the International Nursing Index as well as contractors working for the National Information Center for Health Services Research (NICHSR), NLM, and NLM's own History of Medicine Division staff.

Conclusion

NLM plans to continue access to Internet Grateful Med (IGM) until the unique data from the old subject-oriented databases are converted into their new homes (tentatively expected by the end of calendar year 2000). Ultimately, having the unique data from these databases become an integrated part of PubMed and LOCATOR*plus* should increase the retrieval of that data by significantly more users, and the NLM Gateway will continue to evolve as a tool for gathering information together from diverse NLM resources using only one search request. This is a time of great change at NLM with the end goal being improved services for the many and varied users of NLM resources.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBER

The NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region is very pleased to welcome Erica Burnham as our new Consumer Health Information Coordinator; she will be joining the staff on June 26. Erica has a Master's in Library and Information Studies from McGill University in Montreal. She comes to us from the University of Illinois at Chicago, where she was a reference librarian at the Library of the Health Sciences, and was also project coordinator at the National Resource Center of the AIDS Education and Training Centers in Chicago. She has extensive experience in developing and maintaining websites and in training end users. We look forward to working with Erica in the expansion of NN/LM consumer health information services.

LIBRARY STATUS CHANGE

We regret to report that the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, LIBID PAUCPP (Old LIBID 19103C), has withdrawn as an Area Library in the Middle Atlantic Region, effective May 2000. The College of Physicians remains a Network member, borrowing and lending in DOCLINE and maintaining its holdings in SERHOLD.

NLM TECHNICAL BULLETIN 2000

The following articles from the current *Technical Bulletin* are available on the Web at: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/tb.html.

2000 March-April; 313

Changes in MeSH Data Structure - e2
ChemID*plus*: A Web-Based Chemical Search
        System - e3

Technical Notes - e1
        NLM's MEDLINE*plus* Adds Medical
            Encyclopedia
        Meeting Rooms for NLM Sunrise Seminars
            Announced
        Continuing Education Classes at MLA
            2000 - Update
        DOCLINE Events at MLA 2000

SELECTED RESOURCES FOR MEDICAL, NURSING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS, SURVEYS AND RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS
© *Valerie G. Rankow*

The health sciences librarian often must locate tests, surveys or research instruments. This can be challenging, and very time-consuming. More often than not, your patron thinks you can find the actual test when the best you will be able to do is locate a source where the patron can purchase the product, because most survey and test instruments must be purchased directly from the publishers. If you actually find the test within an article, remember to explain that copyright usually reverts to the test publisher.

There are many excellent print resources for locating tests; however, the absence of cumulative volumes can make this a forbidding project, especially if you do not have the exact title of the instrument. Electronic databases and Internet-based resources for locating tests, surveys, or research instruments make the task much easier.

Electronic Databases:

CINAHL
http://www.cinahl.com/
A fee-based index of the literature of nursing and the allied health professions. Sometimes, a search of CINAHL turns up an article where the test or survey instrument is not only mentioned, but re-printed. There is an Instrument search field in CINAHL.

ERIC / AE Test Locator
http://ericae.net/testcol.htm
A joint project of the ERIC Clearinghouse on Assessment and Evaluation, the Library and Reference Services Division of the Educational Testing Service, the Buros Institute of Mental Measurements at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, the Region III Comprehensive Center at GW University, and Pro-Ed test publishers.

HaPI (Health and Psychosocial Instruments)
http://www.pitt.edu/~bghst4/bmds.html
A fee-based subscription database for evaluation and measurement tools, questionnaires, and test instruments, which is produced by Behavioral Measurement Database Services, often available through commercial database services.

Mental Measurements Yearbook, and Tests in Print
http://www.unl.edu/buros/
The best guides to psychological tests and instruments; produced by Buros Institute of Mental Measurements Publications, available in books and online.

Neuropsychologycentral Assessment Links
http://www.neuropsychologycentral.com/interface/content/links/links_interface_frameset.html

PsycLit / PsycINFO
http://www.apa.org/psycinfo/
A fee-based index of publications that the APA examines regularly to identify psychologically relevant material, including journal articles, dissertations, reports, English-language book chapters and books, and other scholarly documents. PsycInfo contains the data field Assessment Instrument.

Web Sites With Links to Resources on Testing Instruments and Surveys:

The APA website provides the guide, "FAQ / Finding Information About Psychological Tests," which tells you where to find what kind of tests.
http://www.apa.org/science/faq-findtests.html

Florida International University. "Psychological, Educational, and Health Tests and Measurements: Selected Sources." [excellent descriptions and instruction -vgr]
http://www.fiu.edu/~library/assistance/psyched.html

Royal Windsor Society for Nursing Research. "Study Design, Data Analysis and Reliability & Validity Workshops" [hypertext links, scroll down about three-quarters of page].
http://www.windsor.igs.net/~nhodgins/

University of Maryland Libraries. "Tests and Measurements."
http://www.lib.umd.edu/UMCP/MCK/GUIDES/tests.html

University of Melbourne Australian Transcultural Mental Health Network. "Research Literature on Multilingual Versions of Psychiatric Assessment Instruments."
http://www.atmhn.unimelb.edu.au/research/research_papers/mi-index.html

University of Michigan Social Work Library. "Resources for Psychological and Educational Tests and Measurements."
http://www.lib.umich.edu/libhome/Social.lib/testresources.html

University of Minnesota Bio-Medical Library. "Finding Tests, Surveys and Questionnaires."
http://www.biomed.lib.umn.edu/tsq.html

University of North Carolina Division of Neurosurgery. "Commonly Used Scales in Neurosurgery."
http://metalab.unc.edu/Neuro/handbook/scales.html

Western Washington Libraries. "Locating Tests and Testing Information."
http://www.library.wwu.edu/ref/subjguides/tests.htm

Yale Medical Library. "Bibliographic Resource Guide / Behavioral Tests and Measures in the Health Sciences."
http://www.med.yale.edu/library/reference/publications/tests.html

The shot-in-the-dark approach sometimes works, when you enter the test title in a good search engine like Northern Light, FastSearch, Google or AltaVista.

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MLA TAPES AVAILABLE

The NN/LM office has purchased a full set of audiotapes from the recent Medical Library Association annual meeting held in Vancouver. The theme of this year's meeting was "Demystifying the Dragon: Strategies for 2000 Plus."

The tapes are available on loan from the NN/LM office and may be requested by DOCLINE® through the New York Academy of Medicine library. Please note in Comments field, "Available from RML." There is no charge for borrowing these tapes.

GENERAL SESSIONS

GS1. **Welcome from the President of the Medical Library Association**...*Frieda O. Weise, AHIP, president, MLA;* **Welcome from the President of the Canadian Health Library Association**...*Liz Bayley, president, CHLA/ABSC;* **Welcome from the Pacific Northwest Chapter**...*Kimberley M. Granath, AHIP, Pacific Northwest Chapter;* **Greetings from the European Association for Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL)**...*Elizabeth Husem, past-president, EAHIL;* **Welcome from the 2000 National Program Committee (NPC)**...*Brett Kirkpatrick, AHIP, chair, 2000 NPC; Joanne G. Marshall, Ph.D., AHIP, associate chair, 2000 NPC; and Jim Henderson, chair, 2000 Local Assistance Committee;* **Presidential Address**...*Frieda O. Weise, AHIP*

GS2. **Plenary Session I - The John P. McGovern Lecture**...*Introduction: Carole M. Gilbert, AHIP, member, 2000 NPC, and director, Library Services, Helen L. DeRoy Medical Library, Providence Hospital and Medical Centers* **"Digital Doctoring: Health Online and the Empowered Medical Consumer"** ...*Tom Ferguson, M.D., adjunct associate professor, Health Informatics, University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston, TX*

GS3. **The Janet Doe Lecture**...*Introduction: Sherrilynne Fuller, Ph.D., director, Health Sciences Libraries, University of Washington, Seattle, WA* **"The Road Not Taken"**...*Judith Messerle, AHIP, director, Countway Library of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA*

GS4. **National Library of Medicine Update**

GS5. **CISTI-Canadian Institute for Scientific and Technical Information Update**

GS6. **Legislative Update**

GS7. **Plenary Session III - Introduction**...*Joanne G. Marshall, Ph.D., AHIP, associate chair, 2000 NPC, and dean and professor, School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill* **"Demystifying Electronic Publishing: Revelations on the Revolution in Publishing"**...*Paul Ginsparg, Ph.D., physicist, Los Alamos National Laboratory, NM; and Betsy L. Humphreys, AHIP, associate director, Library Operations and assistant director, Health Services Research Information, National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, MD*

SECTION SESSIONS

1. Chiropractic Libraries, Consumer and Patient Health Information, and International Cooperations Sections; and Complementary Medicine and Mental Health SIGs - "Calming the Dragon: The Mind-Body Connection in Healing"

2. Library Management and Leadership (formerly Medical School Libraries) Section - "Approaches to Organizational Change: Library Services in Health Systems Mergers"

3. Medical Library Education Section - "Dragons Roar: New Perspectives - Special Contributed Paper Session for New Graduates and Current Students"

4. Public Health/Health Administration, Collection Development, Research, and Technical Services Sections - "Tracking the Gray Literature: Capturing the Elusive Dragon, Tracking the Noncommercially Published Literature and Making It Available"

5. History of the Health Sciences and Medical Society Libraries Sections and Oral History

Committee - "Recording for the Future: Demystifying the Oral History Process"

6. International Cooperation, Corporate Information Services, Pharmacy and Drug Information, and Public Services Sections - "Dragon, Draggin' and Dragoon: The Cultural Battle for International Copyright Protection"

7. Pharmacy and Drug Information Section - "The 2000 EMBASE Lecture: The Development of Photodynamic Therapy for Oncology, Ophthalmology, and Other Medical Indications at QLT PhotoTherapeutics, Inc."

8. Research, Collection Development, and Federal Libraries Sections - "Evidence-Based Librarianship: Tools We ALL Can Use, Part 1"

9. Cancer Librarians, Hospital Libraries, and Pharmacy and Drug Information Sections - "Demystifying the Library: Expanding Horizons in End-User Training"

10. Federal Libraries and Hospital Libraries Sections - "Feng-shui for Surviving the Downsizing Dragon"

11. Medical Informatics and Library Management and Leadership (formerly Medical School Libraries) Sections - "Clinical Applications of Technologies: Linking Knowledge-Based Information to the Clinical Record"

12. Public Services and Medical Library Education Sections - "On the Wings of the Dragon: Transforming Core Competencies into Practice: Developing Present and Future Information Services Professionals"

13. Hospital Libraries Section - "The Hospital Automation Forum: Hospital Libraries and the Internet in the New Millennium"

14. International Cooperation Section - "Getting Health Information to the World: International Programs at the National Library of Medicine"

15. Library Management and Leadership (formerly Medical School Libraries) Section - "You Never Stop Learning: Developing Leadership Skills Throughout Your Career"

17. Consumer and Patient Health Information Section - "Moving Toward the Mainstream: Providing Consumer Health Information in the Community Setting"

18. Educational Media and Technologies Section - "Growth and Harmony, Part 1: Innovative Solutions to Networking Issues"

19. Medical Informatics, Library Management and Leadership (formerly Medical School Libraries), and Public Health/Health Administration Sections - "Life-Long Learning: Information Competencies for the Health Practitioner"

20. Relevant Issues, Consumer and Patient Health Information, History of the Health Sciences International Cooperation, and Medical Society Libraries - "East/West: Merging Trends in Medical Therapeutics"

21. Hospital Libraries and Federal Libraries Sections - "JCAHO and KBI--Using Them to Build Stronger Hospital Libraries"

22. Nursing and Allied Health Resources and Dental Section - "High Quality Clinical Studies in Nursing--Where Are They Published?"

24. Veterinary Medical Libraries Section - "SPARC and BioOne: New Alternatives for Scholarly Publishing"

25. Educational Media and Technologies Section - "Growth and Harmony, Part 2: Use of Technology to Design Space, Allocate Resources, and Organize Collections"

26. National Program Committee - "Strategic Approaches I: Special General Session Highlighting Critical Issues for the Future"

27. National Program Committee - "Strategic Approaches II: Special General Session Highlighting Critical Issues for the Future"

28. Public Health/Health Administration and Nursing and Allied Health Resources Sections, and Outreach SIG - "Outreach to Public Health Professionals: Demystifying the Dragon of Population-based Service"

29. Public Services and Hospital Libraries Sections - "Weaving the Web: Creating and Managing the Web Databases, Effective Design and Management of Information-Rich Databases Accessible on the Web as Well as Team Projects"

30. Consumer and Patient Health Information, Hospital Libraries, Nursing and Allied Health Resources, Public Health/Health Administration, and Relevant Issues Sections - "Beyond Health Care: Healthy People in Healthy Communities in a Healthy World"

31. Hospital Libraries and Library Management and Leadership (formerly Medical School Libraries) Sections - "Collaborating to Create Opportunity: Building and Growing Consortia to Provide Resources"

32. Research and Public Services Sections - "Evidence-Based Librarianship: Tools We ALL Can Use, Part 2"

NOTE: Sessions 16 and 23, originally scheduled to be taped at the MLA meeting, were cancelled.